

Judge Howard Hollister

**Hands Out a Tip to Plotters Against the Government.—
He Tells Them Plainly Where They Stand.**

In admitting to bail in \$1,500 each, 13 of the 16 alleged anti-conscriptionists held for action of the Federal Grand Jury on charges of treason, United States District Judge Hollister yesterday made it emphatic all persons convicted in his court of plotting against the government will get the limit provided under the law, and sounded a warning to all persons who would seek in any way to interfere with the government's draft of men for the army.

With but two exceptions, the men who qualified as bondsmen for the 13 defendants were former subjects of Germany. John Hoffmann, President of the John Hoffmann Packing Company, Baymiller street, near Central avenue, and T. J. Mulvihill, Cincinnati undertaker, qualified as bondsmen on the bonds of eight of the defendants. The names of the defendants and their bondsmen follow:

William Gruber; John Hoffmann and T. J. Mulvihill.

William George; Philip Spiess, Geo. Moerlein and Julius Zorn.

Philip Rothenbusch; Lawrence Nienwin and Lorenz Labemeier.

Alexander J. Feldhaus; Frederick Bruestle and T. J. Mulvihill.

Arthur Tiedtke; Frederick Bruestle and John Hoffmann.

John Hahn; Nick Jung and Thomas J. Mulvihill.

Joseph Geier; Mrs. Augusta Eiser-mann and T. J. Mulvihill.

Hoffmann and Mulvihill qualified also as bondsmen for Frank Riess, Alfred Welker, Charles Thiemann, Louis G. Stapf, Fred Schneider and Walter Gregory.

Each of the bondsmen was sworn and required to state to the Court the value of his property. Mulvihill said his real estate was on the tax duplicate for \$39,000. Hoffmann said his personal real estate was worth \$15,000 and as President of the packing company and owner of 80 per cent of its stock he controlled \$150,000 more in real estate. Mulvihill and Jung were the two bondsmen who were not born in Germany. Jung said he was born in Hungary. All were citizens of the United States.

Judge Hollister in passing upon the question of bond, said in part:

"I am not disposed to require severe bond; but I want this distinctly understood, that if it shall turn out by the

judgment of a jury that these men, or any of them, or any others, are guilty, they will have difficulty in escaping the full penalty of the law, and it will be just as well now to give notice to any who propose to commit the crime of interfering in any way with the selective draft, which is mighty near treason, if it is not treason, that they need not expect any mercy here. Further than that—and I am not talking to anybody in the room particularly, I am talking to those who may read what I say—I do not want the women and children sent here to plead with me to let their husbands and fathers escape the penalty of the law. It is very difficult to withstand a crying woman with her children. People who contemplate committing crimes against the United States must remember their own women and children.

"If, in the particular case, the testimony does not show the man guilty this Court will protect him fully. This Court will not permit any innocent man to be convicted; but I want this warning in advance, that if he is guilty then he must take the consequences. Now, let that be understood.

"There are so many young men and young women who are led into things that otherwise they would not get into by designing persons. We know there are even citizens of the United States in this locality who are not loyal to the United States and whose interest it is, as they think, to get others to do what they are afraid to do themselves. When the time of conviction comes of those poor misled tools, if they are found guilty, then the plea will be made that they were led into it by others. That plea will not be considered if that time comes.

"Whoever is found guilty in this great, critical time of fighting for the principles of freedom and the liberty of the world, including that of the United States, whoever is found guilty of blocking the hands of the President of the United States and of Congress, who are now seeking to see to it that that liberty shall be maintained, will feel the full weight of the penalty that the Congress of the United States has provided for such a crime.

"Now, whether this will do any good or not, I do not know. It is only the guilty man who need fear. The innocent man will go forth from this room, but the guilty man will receive full punishment.

"Now, what I am saying all this for? For the good I hope it will do as a warning to traitors, and so that, perhaps, some of the poor, weak-minded easily led, and mistaken young people may keep away from the wives of those who are more designing than they. That is what it is for."

LOSS OF LIFE IGNORED.

Cleveland, Ohio.—Public indifference to fatalities in connection with railroad operation is referred to as "Big Talk, Little Thought," by the Railroad Trainmen.

"We have a few mental diseases as a nation; not the least from which we suffer is the one that leads us to think we think," says this paper.

"We speak of thousands of disabilities, thousands of lives lost and millions of days lost through accident and illness, but we do not realize what that loss means, individually or collectively.

"We speak in millions of everything. Men, money, resources, in fact everything is measured by millions of this and that, which we quote with becoming familiarity and very often contempt that leads us to overlook the small things that go to help make up the big things and help or hinder the getting together the millions of which we think we think.

"We have many an object lesson in this war discussion that is in the millions of everything class, and overtops so many little things that should be carefully taken care of.

"Industry, productive in all its respects, is the first step toward practical accomplishment of all the other millions; then why not take every care of the employee to the end that he is not killed or maimed and lost wholly or in part as one of the most important factors in the defense of the nation?

"Our European supply of labor is played out. We can depend only on what we have."

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CHECK ON FOOD SPECULATORS URGED

Washington.—"High prices are the direct effect of the vacuum caused by war exports and if we do nothing we will see the fundamental staples sucked out of our country and a range of prices established that no labor can endure."

This statement was made by Herbert C. Hoover, ex-chairman of the Belgian Relief Commission, at one of the meetings of the congressional labor group and A. F. of L. officials, at the A. F. of L. Building, called by President Gompers last week to consider the food question.

Mr. Hoover, it is announced, will be food administrator under the food control legislation now pending in congress. In the first sentence of his talk to the trade unionists he expressed this opinion on organized labor:

"The labor movement is the only adequate representation of the consumer."

He was emphatic that his plan does not contemplate a "food dictator" or "a rationing of the people," and that methods employed in Belgium and Germany can not fit with American ideals.

He made a distinction between "legitimate speculation," which he said he used for the want of a better term, and "illegitimate speculation," the latter being profiteering on the war, woe and want. He illustrated his views on "illegitimate speculation" by the statement that speculators have already contracted for 40 per cent of this year's rice crop "before it is up out of the ground," and that rice millers declare prices will reach 12 and 14 cents a pound this year with this industry taken out of the hands of millers and producers by men who will set prices without regard for costs.

Competition between the allies and this country has jumped the price of Cuban raw sugar from 1 1/4 cents a pound before the war to 6 1/2 cents at the present time. Sugar is the basis of 12 per cent of the people's food. The same condition prevails in wheat, the basis of 40 per cent of food.

His solution is to "stabilize prices" by establishing boards that will set a range of prices for these commodities and make the road to the producer and consumer more direct by cutting out waste and eliminating as much as possible the speculator and middleman, as "there is a point in prices where any advance is a transgression on the rights of the people."

To indicate the waste in food products he said that 6 per cent of the bread baked was returned to bakers by retailers, and although some of this bread is sold, 75 per cent of it is burned by the bakers. This means 1 1/2 to 2 per cent of our total bread consumption is used as fuel in the manufacture of bread.

Today flour is selling in New York, he said, for \$14 and \$15 a barrel because each one in the long chain between the farmer and consumer demands a contract to protect him on his wheat cost, while the miller "bets on the market."

"The farmer doesn't get the money," he said, "and the consumer pays it."

With his plan to "stabilize prices," Mr. Hoover said he believed flour in New York can be sold for between \$7 and \$9 a barrel.

It is proposed that the government buy all the grain within the range of

prices set by boards and take it out of the hands of speculators, assure millers their needed supply and work out a transportation system with railroads that will end the unsentimental practice of sending Kansas wheat, for instance, to northwestern elevators instead of shipping it to gulf ports for export, while northwestern wheat is shipped to gulf ports.

The plan includes control of all interior elevators, which is agreed to by millers, excepting those few whom Mr. Hoover designated as having "the tory idea."

The Lever bill, now pending in the house, Mr. Hoover said, would make it possible to develop plans he and his volunteer associates have in mind. These plans are but "tools," and not a "constructed house" in any sense, as factors may develop that will compel changes in their line of action.

Mr. Hoover said that if the Lever bill is to be of any value it must be enacted into law before July 1, to check speculators who are already contracting for wheat in the Texas and Oklahoma fields.

LET ALL PROFITEERS STAND BY PRESIDENT.

New York.—The Ladies' Garment Worker, official magazine of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, makes the good point that profiteers who shout "Stand by the President!" in the conduct of the war, should also take President Wilson's advice that labor standards must not be lowered.

"The reactionaries who, before America plunged into the war, already began to lose ground, would fain drag us back into dark industrial reaction of low wages and long hours," said this magazine.

"Manufacturers are taking good care of their end of the business. It is a well-known fact that they rather gain when the price of commodities rules high. The workers should, therefore, come in for a share of the increased charges for the finished garment.

"The war is a poor excuse for lowering standards and working conditions. The war will not be won any sooner if employers are not free to fleece their workers, if it is the workers will suffer want. Rather will the nation suffer in every respect if the toiling masses should become demoralized as a result of poor wages and famine prices.

"The war abroad for the saving of Europe should not blind the public to the war at home—the industrial war, the war on helpless women and children struggling against great odds to make both ends meet.

"As for us, it is now more than ever necessary to close our ranks and keep our organization strong, efficient and fully equipped."

LABOR LAWS RESIST WAR.

Albany, N. Y.—Attorney General Lewis has ruled that war is not an extraordinary emergency within the meaning of the provision of the labor law which forbids employees on state contracts to labor more than eight hours a day.

A military school is being erected at Ithaca and State Architect Pilcher asked if the law could not be waived. The attorney general held that the labor law defined "an extraordinary emergency" as an emergency caused by "fire, flood or danger to life or property."

"It is my opinion," he said, "that the state, in this case, is not authorized, under the existing statute, to suspend the eight-hour law. What powers the federal government may exercise in conducting this work as a war measure are beyond the question considered."

WILL URGE COMPENSATION.

St. Louis, Mo.—The Missouri workmen's compensation conference has issued a circular in which is recounted the unsuccessful efforts to secure a compensation law at the hands of the last legislature. It is stated that this year such laws were enacted in Delaware, Idaho, New Mexico, South Dakota and Utah, making a total of 37 states which are now under compensation laws and leaving Missouri the only large industrial state without one.

The conference, which is composed of employers and employees, asks for suggestions to assist in the fight before the next legislature.

REJECTS SMALL INCREASE.

Chicago.—Organized street car men have rejected the offer of surface lines in this city to sign a three-year contract with a 32-cent an hour provision. These employees refuse to accept this rate in the midst of a world war, with the purchasing power of the dollar diminishing.

Editor Bland of the Union Leader, official newspaper of these workers, says:

"Of course, the company assumes the right to appropriate your patriotism and coin it into dividends. You should forget the fact that while the people are engaged in the serious business of war the company is prosecuting a vigorous campaign for one of the most lucrative franchises ever proposed in traction history. War or peace, it matters not, the efforts to establish a dividend-paying property that will eclipse anything yet realized never ceases.

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